



Lawn Care Tips For Saving Water During Drought

1. **Minimize Fertilization** – heavily fertilized lawns use more water and are more susceptible to drought stress.
2. **Maintain Lawns Properly** – Never mow more than 1/3 of the grass at one time. Raise the mowing height of your mower at least one setting higher than normal. Kentucky Bluegrass can be mowed at 3.5 inches during the summer. Mowing higher forces grass to develop and use deeper roots.
3. **Try Mulching** – Let clippings remain on the grass. Lawns tend to lose more water and nutrients through evaporation when clippings are removed.
4. **Aerate Your Lawn** – Aeration creates small holes in the ground that allow water to soak deeper into the ground and promote root growth.
5. **Maintain Lawn Equipment** – Sharpen mower blades at least twice this summer. Dull blades tear grass, forcing grass to use 40-60% more water to recover from stress.
6. **Water Lightly** – Watering from 4am to 9am is ideal. Irrigating during the day wastes water, because much of the water evaporates in the heat. Grass will not maintain its color without watering, but it can survive about a month without water.